

Monday Morning Eye-Opener May 24, 2021

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MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER



FROM THE STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA

May 24, 2021



Mini Conference June 17th

Here's an opportunity for a half-day conference titled **"Reinventing Libraries for a Post-COVID World."** Sponsored by San Jose State University, this event takes place on **Thursday June 17 from 2:00-5:00PM** central time and is entirely free. More from the webinar planners:

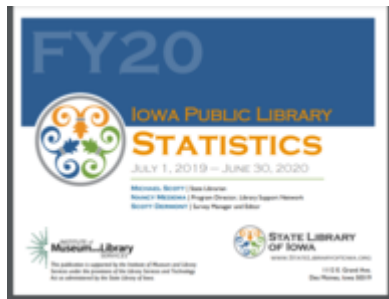
"In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, librarians have been faced with all manner of challenges as they have worked to bring service, resources, and events into the virtual realm. Not surprisingly, library staff have not only met this challenge but thrived in bringing dynamic digital content and exciting online programming like virtual book clubs, gaming tournaments, and even makerspace activities to their patrons. Join this mini-conference to hear how librarians have adapted and evolved their service offerings for a post COVID world."

The upcoming June program represents the second such mini-conference under the sponsorship of San Jose State University. This 3-hour event begins with a keynote panel, followed by an assortment of 30-minute breakout session, and closing with a 30-minute keynote presentation.

Everyone needs to register to attend the conference live and/or to receive the recording links afterward. Find a registration with a click of the button:

Mini-Conference From SJSU June 17th

Newly Released ...



Annual Survey Data FY2020

The State Library has released the ***Iowa Public Library Annual Survey Data FY2020***. This data represents the submissions from Iowa public library directors who completed the *Iowa Public Library Annual Survey* last fall. State Library Consultant Scott Dermont coordinates this statewide data collection every fall and oversees the statewide compilation of data every spring.

Of the 543 public libraries in Iowa, 509 submitted an annual survey for FY20. Only those public libraries that submitted a survey are included in this report. This is an important publication for library directors, staff, and boards to access and use. Quite often, library staff will ask questions of each other on LibraryTalk, questions ranging from salary information to number of hours open to building square footage. This article serves as a reminder that those statistics and so many more are compiled every year and made available on the State Library's website. The button below links to the PDF document for FY2020.

The Data and How To Use It

The ***Iowa Public Library Statistics*** compilation includes information on library income, expenditures, collections, circulation, salaries, hours, and other measures. Each section is arranged by size code; within the size code, libraries are listed alphabetically by city. Totals, averages, and percentiles for each population size code are shown immediately following the alphabetical listings.

Public library statistics are used at the local, regional, state, and national levels. Statistics are used to compare library performance, justify budget requests, track library data over time, assist in planning and evaluation, and provide valuable information for grants and other library programs.

Background

All 50 states collect public library information according to guidelines and definitions established by the Public Library Statistics Cooperative (PLSC). The PLSC provides state-by-state rankings for public libraries. In FY18, the latest national data available, Iowa had 543 independent public libraries; that number puts Iowa 4th nationally after New York, Illinois, and Texas.

[Find FY2020 Iowa Public Library Statistics](#)

ARPA Grant Applications Are Open

Applications opened last Wednesday for Iowa public libraries to apply online for ARPA Grants. As explained in previous issues of the ***Eye-Opener***, public libraries meeting standards at Tier levels 1, 2, or 3 can apply for an ARPA grant in an amount up to \$5,000.00. Applications are due by July 2, 2021.



This funding is provided to the State Library through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). These are non-competitive grants and will be handled as a reimbursement; meaning that library-city budgets will need to pay for any of the allowable purchases and the ARPA grant funding will then provide reimbursement.

Allowable Purchases

The State Library has prepared a list of allowable purchases, following national priorities set by IMLS for the ARPA funding. Note that some items that access the Internet may fall under CIPA (Children's Internet Protection Act) and require Internet filtering. Among the allowable purchases: laptops, tablets, hotspots, routers, meeting room equipment such as PA systems, digital TVs, projectors, and much more. The button below links to a listing of allowable purchases.

These grants may be used for materials or technology to support digital inclusion efforts, enabling libraries to support education, community health and wellness projects, or workforce development needs. Grants can also be used as a continued response to the pandemic and to implement public health protocols.

Application Process

Before turning to the application form, it might be helpful to think through and draft the following information about your project intention:

- **Title and brief description** of project, including how it aligns to the IMLS priorities for digital inclusion and/or the pandemic response
- **Project evaluation plan** to measure success
- **Itemized costs** for allowable items/expenses

Grant applications will be reviewed by State Library staff. If approved, you will receive an award letter via email, followed by a Grant Agreement. The Grant Agreement must be signed by the library grantee representative and returned to the State Library no later than July 30, 2021.

To review the grant timeline, the list of allowable purchases, and a helpful FAQ page, click the button below, which also links to the grant application itself. Contact your [District Consultant](#) to brainstorm ideas on how your library could spend the grant funding. If questions about whether an item might be an allowable expense that is not already included on the list, contact [Nancy Medema](#).

[Apply Now For An ARPA Grant](#)

This Week ...

It's a busy week online with multiple webinars on tap before the holiday kicks in!

[Register in IALearns](#)



Check It Out—May 25 (11:00AM-12:00PM)

Join Angie Manfredi every month for booktalks on the latest titles for ages 0-18. Check It Out! provides collection development ideas and looks at trends in publishing.

The Boardroom—May 25 (6:00-7:30PM)

The second installment in **The Boardroom 2021** series is tomorrow night: ***“Inspire Your Community With Inspiring Stories.”*** This year’s Boardroom webinars bring in concepts from a variety of books, as we connect the books’ ideas to the business of library boards. ***Inspire Your Community With Inspiring Stories*** suggests that the ability to tell impact stories about how the library matters in people’s lives leads to the most memorable conversations with friends, funders, and advocates. And it’s not just the stories we tell, but also how we tell them. This program is based on the book *Inspiring Library Stories: Tales of Kindness, Connection, and Community Impact* (c2020) by Oleg Kagen.

Iowa Library for the Blind Webinar—May 26 (1:00-2:00PM)

In this series, the State Library collaborates with the Iowa Library for the Blind and Print Disabled. Staff from Dept. for the Blind will provide general etiquette examples and useful customer service tips for serving sight-impaired patrons.

Accessibility in PLOW Concrete Websites—May 27 (10:00-11:00AM)

Program Director Marie Harms takes participants through best practices and practical solutions for accessibility concerns in the PLOW Concrete CMS platform. At the end of the webinar, attendees will be able to make their PLOW Website ADA-compliant and understand the components of what makes a website accessible.

Next Monday May 31st is Memorial Day. State Library offices will be closed for the holiday. Monday Morning Eye-Opener takes a holiday too, look for the next issue on June 14.



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Editor: Bonnie McKewon



1112 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319



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